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MAYOR EDDIE PEREZ APPOINTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR

HARTFORD, CT-Mayor Eddie A. Perez has named John Palmieri as the Economic Development Services Director for the City of Hartford. "I am happy that Mr. Palmieri will be joining us in Hartford as we transition to a new form of government," said Perez, "by placing planning, zoning, housing, and licens es and inspections services in one location, Mr. Palmieri will have the opportunity to help our City create a new department that is much more efficient."

Mr. Palmieri brings 23 years of senior planning and development services at three municipalities to Hartford. Mr. Palmieri has worked for the City of Charlotte, N.C for the past two years as Director of Economic Development whe re he established a new division of Economic Development, supported recruitment of John and Wales University to center cities, designed a policy framework for the economic development program, as well as designed and implemented a business retention strategy for the city.

Prior to going to Charlotte, Mr. Palmieri worked for the City of Providence, Rhode Island for eighteen years where he served in a variety of capacities including Executive Director of the Providence Neighborhood Housing Corporation, Executive Director of the Providence Economic Development Corporation,

Executive Director of the Providence Redevelopment Agency and Director of the Department of Planning and Development.

In Providence, Mr. Palmieri led the effort for the "area city" redevelopment initiative to redeem the industrial waterfront and adjacent historical mall district, consolidate the city's housing program with a not-for-profit housing corporation to achieve efficiency through centralized management and developed initiatives within the city's "old donation care" to support housing development and an arts and entertainment district.

Mr. Palmieri earned a B.A. in Political Science from Temple University and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Rhode Island.

Mr. Palmieri will begin his new position with the City of Hartford on April 5.